



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

Michael F. Easley
Governor

Release: **IMMEDIATE**
Date: 3/14/2005

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GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES 40 JOBS FOR DAVIE COUNTY
One N.C. Fund Grant Helps Avgol America Expand and Bring \$27 Million Investment to Area

Raleigh - Gov. Mike Easley announced today that Avgol America Inc., a manufacturer of nonwoven textiles, will expand its manufacturing facility in Mocksville, adding 40 jobs during the next three years and investing \$27 million into the area. This announcement is made possible in part by a \$100,000 grant from the One North Carolina Fund.

"Avgol America's continued success proves that our economic development investments are benefiting both new and existing industries in North Carolina," said Easley. "Our strong emphasis on education and workforce development ensures that companies such as Avgol America can continue to grow here and that our state remains highly competitive in the new global economy."

The 40 new manufacturing jobs will pay an average salary of \$560 per week plus benefits. Avgol is offering complete medical and hospital coverage for full-time employees and their families at little or no cost to workers. With the addition of the new jobs, the workforce at the Mocksville facility will total 140.

Avgol America Inc. is a subsidiary of Avgol Industries, which is a privately owned company established in 1987. Avgol Industries operates manufacturing plants in Israel, China, Brazil and the United States. The company makes lightweight, nonwoven materials for use in items such as disposable diapers and crop protection covers.

Avgol acquired the Mocksville plant in 2001 from Unifi, which built the nonwoven manufacturing facility in 1999. This is Avgol's second expansion since that acquisition. The first came in March 2004, when Avgol America added 40 jobs and invested \$25 million.

"Our North Carolina location has proven to be ideal to transport our products throughout the Eastern U.S.," said Ronnie Batchler, general manager at the plant. "The skilled workforce, low cost to do business, and support from state and local officials have all made this a great fit for us."

The One North Carolina Fund helps the state recruit and expand quality jobs by providing financial assistance to businesses or industries deemed by the governor to be vital to a healthy and growing state economy. Through use of this Fund, more than 13,000 jobs and more than \$1.8 billion in investments have been created since 2001.